



**The Michigan Liquor Control Commission**  
**Brings Drunk Driving and Underage Drinking Program to Michigan Schools**

To Michigan Educators, Parents and Students ~

In the Spring of last year I sent a letter to Michigan high schools introducing myself as the newly appointed Chairperson of the Michigan Liquor Control Commission, and I talked briefly about my concerns regarding the use of alcohol by young people (underage) and shared information about programs offered by The Century Council addressing the issue of young people drinking during the spring events of proms and graduations - a high risk time for underage drinking.

This year, I am excited and pleased to announce that the Michigan Liquor Control Commission will be bringing The Century Council's Brandon Silveria Educational Program to Michigan during the upcoming prom/graduation season. This program has delivered a life-saving message to over two million students across the United States.

During the program, Brandon will tell your students his wrenching story of how as a high school student he had everything a teenager could want – a job, a girlfriend, and plans for the future – until he had a few drinks at a party and chose to drive home. After falling asleep at the wheel, crossing the centerline and crashing into a tree, Brandon was left in a coma for three months and spent several years in rehabilitation. He was so badly injured that basic motor functions such as walking, talking and swallowing had to be re-learned. He has permanent brain injury and suffers from dangerous seizures – yet Brandon's presentations continue to receive standing ovations from students across the country. "What you become depends on the choices that you make," said Brandon Silveria. He hopes that by sharing his experiences with young people, he can prevent others from being hurt or killed.

Because we are limited to only 10 appearances during the week that Brandon is in Michigan (two per day for five days May 2 through May 6, 2005), we will schedule on a first come, first serve basis concentrating on attempting to reach as many students as possible throughout the State.

To request an appearance of Brandon Silveria (with his father, Tony Silveria) at your high school, please contact Deb Lonskey at the Michigan Liquor Control Commission by calling (517) 322-5121, or E-mail at [dlonsk@Michigan.Gov](mailto:dlonsk@Michigan.Gov).

Sincerely,

Nida R. Samona, Chairperson

2/14/2005 NRS:dll